

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-13

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P R 271610Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6376

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

USMISSION USUN

UNCLAS NOUAKCHOTT 2372

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, MR, RH, WA

SUBJECT: MAURITANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON SOUTHERN AFRICA

1. MAURITANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER HAMDI OULD MOUKNASS DISCUSSED SOUTHERN AFRICA SITUATION WITH LOCAL REPORTERS JUST PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FOR UNGA ON SEPT 25. MOUKNASS RECALLED THAT MAURITANIA BROKE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH UK AT TIME OF RHODESIAN UDI. HE EMPHASIZED THAT MAURITANIA HAS ALWAYS SUPPORTED BATTLE OF PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE, HAS ALWAYS FOUGHT AGAINST APARTHEID, AND HAS ALWAYS SUPPORTED SWAPO IN ITS EFFORTS TO LIBERATE NAMIBIA.

2. ZIMBABWE: MOUKNASS SAID THAT WITH ASSISTANCE OF OAU, ON ONE HAND, AND FRONTLINE STATES AND ARMED STRUGGLE OF ANC, ON OTHER HAND, RHODESIAN REBEL GOVERNMENT HAS AGREED TO ACCEPT PRINCIPLE OF MAJORITY RULE. MAURITANIA WILL SUPPORT ANY SOLUTION WHICH IS AGREEABLE TO THE ZIMBABWE COMBATANTS AND WHICH HAS SANCTION OF FRONTLINE COUNTRIES.

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3. NAMIBIA: MOUKNASS COMMENTED THAT HE SINCERELY HOPES

UNGA AND SECURITY COUNCIL WILL REQUIRE SOUTH AFRICA TO TURN OVER ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROL OF THIS INTERNATIONAL TERRITORY TO UNITED NATIONS, "THAT IS TO SAY, THE SECURITY COUNCIL WHICH WILL PLACE THIS CONTROL IMMEDIATELY WITH SWAPO WHICH IS THE LIBERATION MOVEMENT FIGHTING IN THIS TERRITORY". MOUKNASS ADDED THAT AFRICAN COUNTRIES IN UN ARE GOING TO TRY TO REQUEST SECURITY COUNCIL TO USE ALL POSSIBLE MEANS, AS COVERED BY THE CHARTER, TO DISENGAGE SOUTH AFRICA FROM NAMIBIA.

4. SOUTH AFRICA: CONCERNING WHITE MINORITY RULE IN SOUTH AFRICA, MOUKNASS SAID MAURITANIA SUPPORTS " OUR AFRICAN BROTHERS WHO ARE BATTLING TO IMPOSE RACIAL EQUALITY UPON THE WHITE MINORITY. WE ALSO HOPE THAT THE POLICY OF APARTHEID AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION WILL SOON END IN SOUTH AFRICA".

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